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COAL AND IRON RESERVES AND PRODUCTION IN CHINA

Fand Li-sheng

A. Coal

Tron is in the Mortheast and coal is in North Main. " is a statement that indicates the focal points of China's reconstruction.

The total of il reserves of China are estimated to to over 260 million tons; of which the million tons are anthracite; the introductions are bituminous, and 27 million tons are brown coal. (These figures do not include recently discovered deposits.) The distribution of coal reservas are as follows (in one million tons):

Administrative Are	Coal Reserve	Percentage of Total
Northeast	4,610	1.73
North Chin	139,595	563
Central Chia	, 5.24	1.10
South China	586	0.22
Southwest	a , 208	3.70
Northwest	107,778	40.60
Taiwan	2, 1, 1,	∂. 0**
Total.	Server 1	100.00

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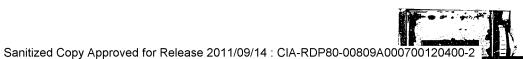
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Comparative Production of Coal in Various Areas (in 1,000 tons)

	Administrative .	1937		1943		<u>1946</u>		First Half of 1947		
		Production	Percentage	Production	Percentage	Production	Percentage	Production	Percentage	
	Northeast	14,393	30	33,000	46	2,859	19	2,333	27.2	
	North China	15,608	42.6	26,000	36	6,751	45	3,930	46	
	Southwest and Northwest	3,512	9.6	7,000	9•7	1,850	12.3	651	7.5	
	Central-South China	3,400	8.8	6,000	8.3	2,550	17	1,163	13.5	
	Teiwan					1,000	6.7	500	5.8	
	Total	36,913	100	72,000	100	15,010	100	8,577	100	

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Anthracite coal constituted /approximately/ 90 percent of the above totals; bituminous coal, 10 percent; and brown coal, less than 1 percent. With regard to consumption, in 1937 the consumption in China proper amounted to 21 million tons, of which 7 million tons were consumed by the five big cities of Shanghai, Nanking, Tientsin, Canton, and Hankow. Ordinarily, Shanghai alone consumes a yearly average of 3 million tons. Most of this supply comes from North China.

The coal production of the Northeast is more than sufficient to supply the demands of the newly established industries in that area. From the standpoint of present technology and potential /industrial/ productivity, the production of coal should be sufficient to meet the demands for it. As reconstruction work progresses, the demand for coal will be greatly increased. This demand can be met by opening new mines and improving the exploitation in old mines.

B. Iron

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According to surveys, the iron reserves of China are about 5 billion tons of which three fourths are located in the Northeast, mostly in the An-shan area. According to a survey conducted in the autumn of 1939, the iron reserves in An-shan were estimated at 2 billion tons.

The production of iron and steel in the prewar period in various parts of China was as follows (in 1,000 tons):

Region	Areas Included	Pig Iron	Steel Plates	Steel Products
0-tung	Hang-yang, Hankow Ta-yeh	595	210	168
Peiping	Shih-ching-shan	87		
Chin- chung Ch'u	Yang-ch'uan, Tai-yuan	63	50	40
Liao-nan	An-shan and Pen-ch'i	791	450	360

Except for the plants in the Liao-nan area, all were established by Chinese capital. During the war against the Japanese, all operations were controlled by the Japanese except Han-yang Steelworks and it was damaged. In their most prosperous days the productivity of the iron and steel plants was as follows (in 1,000 tons):

Region	Coke	Pig Iron	Steel Plate	Steel Products
An-shan	2,075	1,950	1,330	940
Pen-ch'i	760	630	15*	10*
Fu-shun			20*	
Shih-ching-shan	380	290		14*
Tientsin	53	35	23	21
T'ang-shan		140	60	54
Tsingtao	175			
Hsuan-hua		105		

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Region	Coke	Pig Iron	Steel Plate	Steel Products
Chin-chung		77	50	40
Ta-t'ung		52		
Ma-an-shan		70		
Shanghai		15	30	28
Taiwan		40	14	1.5

(*Indicates specially made steel and its products. Since coke is the chief fuel in making steel, figures for coke are included in this table.)

All of the above-listed areas, except Taiwan, have been liberated. In the An-shan Iron and Sterl Works, six of the original furnaces were destroyed during the Sino-Japanese war; the remaining three have been repaired. If the equipment is increased the production of the An-shan plant alone would be sufficient to meet the country's demand. The two special steel and iron plants of Pen-ch'i and Fu-shun, the Shin-ching-shan Ironworks, the T'ang-shan Steelworks, and the Tientsin Steelworks, all located close to the sources of coal and iron ore, will develop greatly in the future. The iron ore of Hainan Island will not be shipped to foreign countries, as it has been in the past. It can now be used in domestic factories.

From what has been surveyed, it is believed that more iron deposits will be discovered. At present, there is no problem of shortage. Based on our present technical skill, the production of iron and steel will be sufficient to meet domestic demands, if operations are enlarged and extended.

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